

SERVICE CENTER NEWS

Campbell County Wyoming

May 2008

Farm Service Agency County Committee

307-682-8843, ext. 2

Rex Brown, Chairman
Lee Isenberger, Vice-Chairman
Amanda Sorenson, Member

Natural Resources Conservation Services

307-682-8842, ext. 3

Tim Kellogg, District Conservationist

Campbell County Conservation District

307-682-1824

Michelle Cook, District Manager
Debbie Hepp, Program Assistant
Crystal Dille, Admin. Assistant

Office Staff, ext 2

Susan Kramer, CED
Claudette Vander Voort, PT
Peggy Seppala, PT
Judy Bishop, PT
Rob Weppner, FLM

District Board Members

Wanda Burget
Travis Hakert
Jason Oedekoven
Brenda Schladweiler
Steve Sorenson

CROP AND LIVESTOCK DISASTER PROGRAMS

Farm Service Agency continues to accept applications for the Livestock Compensation Program (LCP) and the Crop Disaster Program (CDP). The LCP is available to livestock producers for losses that occurred due to drought related grazing losses for crop years 2006 or 2007. To complete an LCP application we need the type and number of head of livestock. Applicants will also need to provide information concerning drought related, above normal, livestock sales. Eligible livestock include beef and dairy cattle, beefalo, buffalo, sheep, goats, equine, deer, swine, elk, reindeer and poultry. Ineligible livestock are those used for roping, hunting, show, pleasure, pets and consumption by the owner. 2006 LCP payments will be reduced by payments that were previously received under the Livestock Assistance Grant Program through the State of Wyoming.

The Crop Disaster Program (CDP) is available for weather related crop losses for crop years 2005, 2006 or 2007. To qualify for CDP, you must have had either multi-peril Crop Insurance or Non-insured Assistance Program (NAP) coverage on the affected crop and there must have been a 35% production loss. If you suffered a crop loss in more than one year, you will need to apply for CDP for all affected years and you will be paid for the crop year for which you sustained the greatest loss.

For more information, access FSA's web site, <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>; click Disaster Assistance Programs.

2008 ACREAGE REPORTS

The county office is now taking appointments for your 2008 acreage reports. We are requesting appointments to avoid long delays or extra trips to the office. Acreage reports are a requirement for almost all programs administered through this office. You must file this report every year even if you have no changes from the previous year. The deadline to file your report is **July 1, 2008**. Reports filed after July 1 will be assessed a late-filed fee of a \$30 basic farm fee **plus** an hourly rate of \$16 first hour/\$8 every 30 minutes after first hour. Hourly rate charges begin when the county office employee leaves the county office and ends when the employee returns to the county office.

The crop planting date is required on the report, so anyone with spring seeded crops should wait until they have finished planting before setting up their appointment.

If you have had any land record changes (land purchases, sales, new leases, etc.), please advise the office ahead of time so we will be prepared for your acreage report. **YOU** are responsible for filing an accurate acreage report. When you sign your acreage report, you are certifying that all acres are reported correctly.

REPORTING PRODUCTION FOR NAP

July 1 is the deadline for Farm Service Agency to complete proven yields for producers who are participating in the Non-insured Assistance Program. In order for us to complete the proven yield calculations and to obtain the necessary signatures by the July 1 deadline, we are asking NAP participants to submit their production evidence to this office as soon as possible. Failure to turn in your production evidence will result in a decreased yield guarantee and will decrease program benefits in the event of a crop loss.

CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM CONTINUOUS SIGN-UP

Under the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) continuous sign-up, eligible agriculture producers may apply to enroll small acreages of eligible cropland or marginal pastureland in CRP. Participants agree to establish approved conservation practices on eligible land and remove the land from agricultural production in return for annual rental payments for the term of the CRP contract, which can run from 10 to 15 years. A 50% cost-share payment is available to help with the cost of completing approved conservation practices. There is an additional 40% cost-share incentive payment for certain practices. Along with the cost-share and annual rental payments, there is a sign-up incentive payment and an annual maintenance payment. Some eligible practices that can be completed on land enrolled under continuous CRP are: Field Windbreaks, Shallow Water Areas for Wildlife, Shelterbelt Establishment, Filter Strips and Riparian Buffers.

FARM CHANGES

In order for us to properly and accurately administer farm programs, it is very important that we have current records of the owners and operators of farms. Farm owners and operators are asked to report changes in their farming or ranching operations to us. This may include the purchase or sale of a farm or the rental of a farm which you did not have an interest in last year. Please report these changes so that we can process applications for program participation in a timely manner and so we can keep you informed of programs.

DIRECT DEPOSIT OF PROGRAM PAYMENTS & ACCOUNT CHANGES

Farm program payments earned through this office are required to be paid by direct deposit into a bank account selected by the program participant. If you have completed a direct deposit agreement and had a bank account change, you must notify us of account changes for your payment to be properly deposited.

REPORTING CROP LOSSES NON-INSURED ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Producers who purchased crop loss coverage under the non-insured assistance program are reminded that if you suffer a crop loss, you must complete a notice of loss form with this office no later than 15 calendar days after the disaster occurrence or no later than 15 days from the date that damage to the specific crop acreage is apparent. Notice of loss must be provided for each weather-related event or adverse natural occurrence that causes damage to or loss of the specific crop or commodity. Failure to report crop damage or loss in a timely manner will result in ineligibility for Non-insured Assistance Program payment.

County Committee Election Process Begins

The Campbell County FSA Committee will begin accepting nominations for the county committee election **June 15th through August 1st 2008**. Local Administrative Area (LAA) number 3 is up for election. Currently, Lee Isenberger represents LAA #3. To be nominated for the committee, a person must have an interest in farming or ranching operation that physically lies in the LAA. This person may be an individual or may be a representative of a legal entity, such as a corporation, and must live in the LAA and be an eligible voter.

Duties of County FSA Committee members include:

- * Informing farmers/ranchers of the purpose and provisions of FSA programs.
- * Keeping the Wyoming State FSA Committee informed of LAA conditions.
- * Recommending needed changes in farm programs.
- * Participating in county meetings as necessary.
- * Performing other duties as assigned by the Wyoming State FSA Committee.

An FSA-669A – nomination form, will be sent in a separate mailing, additional copies may be obtained at the FSA County office. The deadline for returning a completed nomination form is **August 1, 2008**. Only one person may be nominated per form and the form must be signed by the nominee, indicating a willingness to serve if elected. A list of eligible voters, which includes the names of persons eligible to run for county committee, is available at this office.

Loans Available for Beginning Farmers, Socially Disadvantaged

FSA is authorized to assist beginning farmers and or members of socially disadvantaged groups to finance agricultural enterprises. Under these programs, FSA can provide financing to eligible applicants through either direct or guaranteed loans. FSA defines a beginning farmer as a person whom:

- Has operated a farm for not more than 10 years
- Will materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm
- Agrees to participate in a loan assessment, borrower training and financial management program sponsored by FSA
- Does not own a farm in excess of 30 percent of the county's average size.

Each member of an entity must meet the eligibility requirements. Loan approval is not guaranteed. Socially disadvantaged groups are Hispanics, American Indians, African Americans, Asians, Pacific Islanders and women. Please contact Rob Weppner, Farm Loan Manager with any questions at 307-682-8843.



IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

May 26, 2008 – County Office Closed – Memorial Day Holiday

Anytime – Call for appointment to complete acreage reports and submit 2007 production reports

July 1, 2008 – Deadline for acreage reporting

July 4, 2008 - County Office Closed Independence Day Holiday

IMMEDIATELY --File Notification of Loss Forms within 15 Days of Loss

--Notify County office of any changes in Direct Deposit information,

--Payment limitation changes, Farm records changes, etc.

Any time --CRP Continuous Signup

--Paid measurement services from FSA

Office Hours are from 8:00am to 4:30pm. Producers are urged to call for an appointment, so the office staff can assist you timely. Due to the computer environment, some applications/processes are unable to be completed after 4:00pm.

If you have any questions regarding any of the above dates or information in this newsletter, please contact the County office for more information (307) 682-8843, ext.2.

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